Mr. M. SRINIVASIAH.—With reference to answer to (*b*) have not raiyats under any other tanks complained about shortage of water supply?

Mr. M. G. MEHKRI.—Notice.

Mr. M. SRINIVASIAH.—What action has been taken to set right the complaints received from the raiyats referred to in (*b*)?

Mr. M. G. MEHKRI.—The answer is furnished in answer to (*c*).

Mr. M. SRINIVASIAH.—What is the cost of the estimate? When were plans received?

Mr. M. G. MEHKRI.—Plans and estimates have not yet been received.

Mr. M. SRINIVASIAH.—Will the Government expedite the work?

Mr. M. G. MEHKRI.—They have been trying to do it.

Another MEMBER.—How many tanks in Malavalli Taluk get their supplies from the Irwin Canal?

Mr. M. G. MEHKRI.—Notice.

Abolition of the Urdu School in Sorab Town.

Q.—150. **Mr. ABDUL KHADER** (Sagar *cum* Nagar *cum* Sorab, Mahomedan—Rural).—

Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(*a*) whether there was an Urdu School in Sorab Town;

(*b*) how long it was working;

(*c*) the reason for its abolition?

A.—**The SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT, GENERAL DEPARTMENT (Mr. J. Appaji Gowda).**—

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Up to 19th July 1941.

(*c*) It has not been abolished, but temporarily closed, as it was in a languishing condition.

Mr. ABDUL KHADER.—What was the strength of the school?

Mr. J. APPAJI GOWDA.—Thirteen.

Mr. ABDUL KHADER.—Is there any other Primary School near at hand?

Mr. J. APPAJI GOWDA.—Notice.

Mr. ABDUL KHADER.—What is the population of Mussalmans in Sorab?

Mr. J. APPAJI GOWDA.—Notice.

Mr. ABDUL KHADER.—Is it not possible to re-open the school this year?

Mr. J. APPAJI GOWDA.—The strength is lower than the prescribed minimum.

Mr. ABDUL KHADER.—What is the prescribed minimum?

Mr. J. APPAJI GOWDA.—Twenty.

Mr. T. M. SABJU SAB.—In a place in which 70 to 80 Muslim families reside, are there not 20 boys to attend the school?

Mr. J. APPAJI GOWDA.—No. That is why the school has been closed.

Mr. T. M. SABJU SAB.—What had been the attendance originally and what was the reason for the fall in attendance subsequently?

Mr. J. APPAJI GOWDA.—I cannot say.

Mr. T. M. SABJU SAB.—If the number of boys increases, will the school be re-opened?

Mr. J. APPAJI GOWDA.—Will be considered.

Nawab SHER KHAN (Honnali).—Are the Government aware that the fall in attendance was due to some defect or irregularity on the part of the teacher?

Mr. J. APPAJI GOWDA.—No.

Mr. SHER KHAN.—Had any previous notice been given by the School Board authorities before the school was closed?

Mr. J. APPAJI GOWDA.—Yes.

Mr. SHER KHAN.—Did the local people send up a petition to Government stating that if the teacher was changed, they would again send their children to school?

Mr. J. APPAJI GOWDA.—No.

Mr. SHER KHAN.—Is the town of Sorab not a taluk headquarter?

Mr. J. APPAJI GGWDA.—Yes.

Mr. SHER KHAN.—Are the Government aware that this was the only Urdu Primary School in the whole taluk?

Mr. J. APPAJI GOWDA.—I am not aware.

Mr. SHER KHAN.—Have the Government enquired into the reasons for the substantial fall in the strength of the school?

The MINISTER for EDUCATION (Mr. J. Mahomed Imam).—If the local people send sufficient number of pupils, Government will think of re-opening the school.

Mr. K. V. ANANTARAMAN.—As soon as notice was given that the school was going to be closed, why did not the local people bestir themselves up ?

Mr. SHER KHAN—For the only reason which I already stated. Will the Government enquire into this matter and order the re-opening of the school ?

Mr. K. V. ANANTARAMAN.—All right.

Mr. S. N. M. RAZVI.—What is the minimum strength required for running a Primary School in the malnad ?

Mr. J. APPAJ' GOWDA.—Twenty, as already stated.

Mr. S. N. M. RAZVI.—Is that minimum insisted upon in all the Primary Schools?

Mr. J. APPAJI GOWDA.—Yes.

Mr. S. N. M. RAZVI.—Are the Government certain that there is no case in which the strength is less than 20 ?

Mr. J. APPAJI GOWDA.—I cannot say.

The DIRECTOR of PUBLIC INSTRUCTION (Mr. M. Sultan Mohiyuddin) stated that when he visited the school some time in the previous year, the number of pupils was very small. He had made special enquiries as to why that was so, and was told that the parents did not want to send their children to that school. The reasons for it were not made known. He therefore instructed the District Education Officer and the Assistant Inspector that another notice might be issued and the school closed unless the strength appreciably increased in response to the notice.

Mr. S. N. M. RAZVI.—When was the school closed ?

Mr. J. MAHOMED IMAM.—Please see the printed answer.

Mr. S. N. m. RAZVI.—For how long was the school without a teacher ?

Mr. M. SULTAN MOHIYUDDIN.— I cannot say.

Mr. S. N. M. RAZVI.—Are the Government aware that the local people were dissatisfied that the school was without a teacher ?

Mr. M. SULTAN MOHIYUDDIN.—No.

Mr. S. N. M. RAZVI.—Is distance between two schools taken into consideration ? What, roughly, is the area to be served by each school ?

Mr. M. SULTAN MOHIYUDDIN—That is not defined strictly.

Mr. S. N. M. RAZVI.—Is there a Primary School anywhere in the vicinity of this town ?

Mr. M. SULTAN MOHIYUDDIN.—Notice.

Mr. S. N. M. RAZVI.—If the Government come to know that within a radius of three or four miles there is no school which children of the locality could attend, will they waive the prescribed minimum and order the re-opening of the school in the hope that the strength would improve in the near future ?

Mr. M. SULTAN MOHIYUDDIN.—A concession like that may be shown in deserving cases. But in this case, there seems to be no purpose served in doing so.

Mr. S. N. M. RAZVI.—Are the Government also of the same opinion ?

Mr. K. V. ANANTARAMAN.—If the concession is likely to be of any use, it may be shown.

Mr. T. M. SABJU SAB.—Did all the members of the Muslim community of Sorab say that they would not send their children to the Urdu school ?

Mr. M. SULTAN MOHIYUDDIN.—The Assistant Inspector who enquired into the matter reported that there was no demand for an Urdu school there, as the parents preferred to send their children to a general school instead of to the Urdu school.

Mr. T. M. SABJU SAB.—From whom was the report received ?

Mr. M. SULTAN MOHIYUDDIN.—From the Assistant Inspector through the District Educational Officer.

Mr. T. M. SABJU SAB.—Was that how the Assistant Inspector understood them or was that opinion really expressed by the people ?

Mr. M. SULTAN MOHIYUDDIN.—His report is that that was the view expressed.

Mr. T. M. SABJU SAB.—Did the Director enquire of the parents if this was so ?

Mr. M. SULTAN MOHIYUDDIN.—The Assistant Inspector must have made the enquiry.

Mr. T. M. SABJU SAB.—Was any *mahazar* drawn up ?

Mr. M. SULTAN MOHIYUDDIN.—No.

Mr. T. M. SABJU SAB.—It was said that a certain minimum strength had

been prescribed for running a school. Is any such minimum prescribed for Kannada schools also?

Mr. M. SULTAN MOHIYUDDIN.—Yes. Only in the case of Depressed Class schools, some concession is shown.

Mr. T. M. SABJU SAB.—What is that concession?

Mr. M. SULTAN MOHIYUDDIN.—The minimum in their case is slightly reduced.

Construction of a Bridge on Channapatna-Halagur Road.

Q.—151. **Mr. M. SUBBA RAO** (Channapatna—Rural).—

Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether it has come to their notice that between the 5th and 6th mile-stones on the Channapatna-Halagur Road there are four streamlets by name Gadanganahalla which are side by side and that during the rainy season nearly four to five furlongs of this road will be under causing a lot of inconvenience to the passengers, carts, cars and buses passing on this road;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that a number of petitions in the matter of constructing a bridge over these *hallas* had been addressed to the Dewan, the District Board President, the Chief Engineer and the Deputy Commissioner for the last four years, and the subject was discussed at length in the Taluk and District Conferneces also;

(*c*) whether there is any correspondence dealing with the subject;

(*d*) if so, whether it will be possible for them to construct this bridge and obviate the inconveniences to traffic?

A—**The SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT (Mr. M. G. Mehkri).**—

(*a*) Representations have been made regarding the bad condition of this road.

(*b*) The subject has been discussed at the Taluk and District Conferences.

(*c*) No. But proposals for widening the tank-bunds and deviation of the road have been investigated

(*d*) Yes, if the District Board is prepared to bear the cost of the bridge, which is roughly estimated at Rs. 15,000.

Mr. M. SUBBA RAO.—Were not representations made to Government for the construction of a bridge over these streamlets?

Mr. M. G. MEHKRI.—I do not think so.

Mr. M. SUBBA RAO.—A representation was made on 1st September 1938 and an assurance was given by the Chief Engineer that the Executive Engineer would be requested to examine the question. Are not the Government aware of it?

Mr. M. G. MEHKRI.—The Chief Engineer might be aware of it, but Government are not.

Mr. M. SUBBA RAO.—Five or six representations have been made in respect of this matter and all of them have been acknowledged by the department. Such being the case, how can the Government say that they are not aware of any representations having been made?

Mr. M G. MEHKRI.—The Chief Engineer might have acknowledged receipt of the petitions. But there has been no correspondence between the Chief Engineer and the Government in the matter.

Mr. M. SUBBA RAO.—Have the Government made enquiries whether the District Board is prepared to bear the cost of the bridge?

Mr. M. G. MEHKRI.—Yes.

Mr. M. SUBBA RAO.—What reply has the District Board given?

Mr. M. G. MEHKRI.—No reply has yet been received.

Mr. M. SUBBA RAO.—Do the Government expect to get a reply early and is the work likely to be taken up soon?

Mr. M. G. MEHKRI.—Yes, if the District Board agrees to bear the cost.

Mr. M. SUBBA RAO.—Will the Government remind the District Board and ask for an early reply?

Mr. K. V. ANANTARAMAN.—Yes.

Mr. V. VENKATAPPA.—Is the District Board expected to contribute the entire amount of Rs. 15,000 or only a half of it?

Mr. M. G. MEHKRI.—It is a district fund road and so the entire cost of the bridge should be borne by the District Board.